



Air station corporal becomes nationalized U.S. citizen

... page 2



Flag football season gets underway: returning champs team to beat

... page 8



Friday: Mostly sunny High: 109 Low: 83
Saturday: Sunny High: 108 Low: 81
Sunday: Sunny High: 108 Low: 81

Serving Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona

DESERT WARRIOR

Volume 7, Number 32 www.yuma.usmc.mil Aug. 14, 2008

ALMAR sets CFT standards, events

Gunnery Sgt. Bill Lisbon
Desert Warrior Staff

In order to measure physical fitness reflective of combat demands, the Corps' commandant signed the order Aug. 1 that added a second semiannual test to Marines' already tough standards.

The combat fitness test, which will be required of all Marines beginning Oct. 1, is among several changes overhauling the Corps' fitness program.



"Recognizing that Marines are 'warrior athletes,' our fitness program was modified to reflect the same collaboration of effort found at the collegiate and professional sports level," said commandant Gen. James T. Conway, in a message to all Marines explaining Marine Corps Order 6100.13.

Combat experience in Iraq and Afghanistan revealed the need to develop a physical training program to prepare for and test combat fitness, said Conway in a November 2007 letter to commanders.

The combat fitness test is characterized by anaerobic, or "short burst," energy demands. The three-part test was "developed around operational vignettes that may represent a Marine's combat experience," said Conway in All Marine Message 032/08.

The test consists of three events, dubbed

For a detailed breakdown of each CFT event, see page three.

see CFT page 4

A New Nightmare on O'Neill Street



Photo by Lance Cpl. Gregory Aalto

Members of Marine Attack Squadron 513 salute as the National Anthem plays during the squadron's change-of-command ceremony Friday at Hangar 95. Lt. Col. Marcus Annibale took the reigns of the Flying Nightmares from Lt. Col. Christopher Parkhurst. Both men served their first fleet tours with VMA-513. Annibale, who transfers from Marine Aircraft Group 13, has begun his third tour with the squadron. Parkhurst will attend the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

New DoD travel cards en route to users

Lance Cpl. Gregory Aalto
Desert Warrior Staff

Citibank began sending Yuma's cardholders their new cards Wednesday, as the Marine Corps approaches the November turnover to a new bank for its travelers' credit card needs.

The change comes after Bank of America chose not to renew their contract with the Defense Department.

The 1.2 million cardholders, including 82,000 Marines, will receive the new Citibank cards and verification instructions at their mailing addresses on file with their agency program coordinators, said Cpl. Michael Monroe, Defense Travel System clerk here.

"The main thing users need to do is call (Citibank) and verify they received the card," said Paul Laurent, lead Defense Travel System officer here.

Station cardholders will need to ensure their information is up-to-

date to ensure they receive the new cards before the swap in services, said Monroe.

The Bank of America card will not work after 9:59 p.m. Mountain time on Nov. 29. From 10 p.m. onward only the Citibank card will work, said Laurent.

Those traveling during this time should notify their area program coordinators, said Laurent. Card users traveling during the changeover will need to carry both cards.

The cards are authorized for personnel who travel of temporary duty at least three times per year. They enable travelers to charge various travel costs, such as lodging and transportation, instead of asking for a cash advance or paying out of pocket to be reimbursed later.

To offer several upgraded features, Citibank has enhanced their electronic access system, according to Master Sgt. Gregory Duplechain, a card program manager at Headquarters Marine Corps. Citibank has also dropped the \$10 fee for phone payments and reduced their ATM



Photo by Lance Cpl. Bryan G. Carfrey

In the coming months, Department of Defense travelers will have to keep their eyes and ears open, because the government travel charge card contract with Bank of America will expire and transition to Citibank on Nov. 30 at midnight.

see CARDS page 4

Return of boatspace caps could sink re-enlistments

Lance Cpl. T.M. Stewman
Desert Warrior Staff

The Marine Corps will limit re-enlistment boatspaces for first-termers in fiscal year 2009 after removing the caps in 2008 in an effort to expand the Corps' wartime strength.

As a result, the boatspace caps will make re-enlistment more competitive in any fields with little room to grow after recent recruiting and retention success.

Boatspaces are re-enlistment openings available in a given military occupational specialty. The caps limit the number of re-enlistments allowed in an MOS in order to maintain the correct balance of personnel at different ranks.

"Some may feel that boatspace caps are bad or unfair, but really it helps the Corps from stagnation," said

Sgt. Jose Lopez-Gonzalez, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13 career retention specialist. "The caps keep our numbers down, which helps with promotion rates and professional growth within the Corps."

The caps were announced in Marine Corps Bulletin 7220, released June 30.

Boatspace caps were suspended during fiscal year 2008 in an effort to ultimately grow the Corps to a force of 202,000 Marines by the end of fiscal year 2011.

When weighing the re-enlistment options, those who procrastinate could end up "missing the boat."

"Because the boatspace caps are on a first-come, first-served basis, some Marines may find themselves limited with options," said Lopez-Gonzalez.

Even after an MOS has reached its limit for the year, first-term Marines may still have an opportunity to re-enlist.

see BOATSPACE page 4

Marines with FY-09 EAS can re-enlist now for better bonus

Lance Cpl. T.M. Stewman
Desert Warrior Staff

Due to the significant changes in re-enlistment bonuses from fiscal year 2008 to 2009, the window for eligible Marines seeking to cash in on their new contracts is quickly closing.

For some Marines, taking advantage of the rare opportunity to re-enlist before the new fiscal year begins will prove more beneficial. For others, waiting until after Oct. 1 will mean a higher bonus.

Normally, first-term Marines have to re-enlist in the same fiscal year that their contract expires. This year, however, first termers whose contracts end in fiscal year 2009 can elect to re-enlist before Sept. 30 and still be eligible for bonuses of fiscal year 2008, according to Marine Corps Bulletin 7220 released June 30.

If a Marine chooses to wait until after Oct. 1, they will receive the re-enlistment bonus for fiscal year 2009.

For example, a corporal combat videographer would receive a \$55,000 re-enlistment bonus for fiscal year 2009 instead of \$26,500 for fiscal year 2008.

see BONUS page 4

Yuma Marine naturalized as U.S. citizen



Lance Cpl. Gregory Aalto
Desert Warrior Staff

“I hereby declare, on oath ... that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic... so help me God.”

—The U.S. Oath of Allegiance.
An air station corporal spoke these words Aug. 7 at the Yuma Civic Center, taking his final step to become a U.S. citizen.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalized Cpl. Luis Quintero, a Marine Attack Squadron 211 powerline mechanic, along with 350 new citizens from nine different countries in the ceremony.

“I am happy and excited,” said Quintero, who emigrated from Caracas, Venezuela when he was 3 years old.

U.S. citizenship will also allow the 20-year-old more options within the Marine Corps.

“Now I can get my secret clearance and have more (military occupational specialties) open to me,” said

Quintero, who has served 26 months in the Marines.
Watching as her husband took the oath, his wife Yeli, a Mexican national, expects to receive her citizenship in six to eight months.

Naturalized citizen Lt. Col. David Jones, Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 commanding officer, volunteered to speak at the citizenship ceremony.

“Look at what you can do to make the country better. What the future holds is what you make it,” said Jones, who became a U.S. citizen in 1987. “I couldn’t be where I am if the U.S. hadn’t given me the opportunity.”

The service was the largest in Yuma history.
The naturalization process normally takes between five months and two years to complete.

Resident aliens 18 and older with at least five years of residency and “good moral character” qualify to apply for U.S. citizenship, according to USCIS.

Applicants are then fingerprinted, interviewed and given an English and civics test before taking the oath.

“With a single oath, you are now as much of an American as the direct descendants of the founding fathers,” said President George W. Bush, during a video played during the event.



Photos by Lance Cpl. Gregory Aalto

Left, Cpl. Luis Quintero, Marine Attack Squadron 211 powerline mechanic, receives his citizenship paperwork after U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Aug. 7 naturalization ceremony at the Yuma Civic Center. Quintero, a Caracas, Venezuela, native, immigrated to West Palm Beach, Fla., when he was 3 years old. Right, Lt. Col. David Jones, a naturalized citizen, was a guest speaker at the event, which was Yuma’s largest naturalization service ever. Quintero was one of 351 new Americans, from nine different countries, to take the Oath of Allegiance at the event.

School liaison links military families to local schools

Pfc. Austin Hazard
Desert Warrior Staff

With Yuma schools starting in a few weeks, newcomers to the air station may find themselves asking questions about their children’s education: Where are the schools located? Which school should their children attend? How do they enroll their children? Which schools provide bus transportation to and from the air station?

Marine Corps Community Services recently created a school liaison position to answer those questions for military families.

“It’s nice to know that when service members move from one place to another, they don’t have to dig up all the information on the schools themselves,” said Lt. Col. Robert Skankey, director of safety and standardization, who served as the interim school liaison.

Jennifer Stampfer, the current school liason, was hired April 21, after working as a high school guidance counselor for five years in Buffalo, N.Y.

In addition to providing parents with school-related information, the school liaison communicates between parents and the schools.

“Schools now have a connection to the installation,” said Stampfer. “Many schools are excited about the new position and feel it will help immensely when trying to commu-

nicate with Marine parents. Many schools stated that they have always supported the installation and Marines, but having a liaison to actually work one-on-one with makes it more personal and feel more like a community.”

The school liaison also assists in easing the in-school side of events that many military children experience, such as changing schools due to a parent’s permanent change of station, Stampfer added.

“I supply teachers with information and resources to help support students whose parents have deployed or students who’ve suffered a loss,” she said.

Stampfer said she has also been invited to participate on several of Yuma’s school improvement teams.

“For the Yuma Union High School district strategic planning committee, I was part of a working group consisting of a high school principal, four high school teachers and four high school students,” said Stampfer. “We developed objectives and goals that supported the district’s new mission.”

As of April, there were 671 school-aged children, 5-18, in Marine families on and off station.

The school liaison’s office is located in Building 1085A, adjacent to the housing office, and is open in the summer from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and during the school year from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call 928-269-5373.

Correction

In the Aug. 7 article titled “Incoming COs for Yuma units named,” the Desert Warrior misidentified the commanding officers selected for two Yuma squadrons.

The correct information is as follows: The current executive officer of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13, Maj. Gregory J. Clarke, would step up to command, while Maj. Craig A. Doty would helm Marine Air Control Squadron 1.

DESERT WARRIOR

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Commanding Officer

Capt. Rob Dolan
Public Affairs Officer

Gunnery Sgt. Bill Lisbon
Public Affairs Chief

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ARE YOU READY FOR THE CFT?



MOVEMENT TO CONTACT

The first event of the combat fitness test is a timed 880-yard run. The event can be held indoors or outdoors, on reasonably level ground. The course run should be continuous, with no sharp turns that would force Marines to slow down and lose time. The uniform for this event is boots and utility trousers.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS			
Through Sept. 30, 2009			
AGE	EVENT I	EVENT II	EVENT III
	male / female	male / female	male / female
17-26	3:48 / 4:34 minutes	45 / 20 lifts	3:29 / 4:57 minutes
27-39	4:00 / 4:40 minutes	45 / 21 lifts	3:55 / 5:27 minutes
40-45	4:19 / 5:09 minutes	44 / 17 lifts	3:57 / 6:07 minutes
46 & up	4:30 / 5:20 minutes	43 / 15 lifts	4:28 / 6:30 minutes

AMMUNITION LIFT

In the second event, Marines have two minutes to properly lift a 30-pound ammunition can from shoulder level to overhead as many times as possible. Marines will be paired up by weight within 10 pounds, and will count one another's lifts. The Marine counting should be located to the side of their partner, to observe elbow lock and avoid injury, should the lifting Marine drop the ammo can. During the event, Marines may place cans on the ground to rest if needed.



In the starting position, the top of the ammo can must be just below the chin, with the handle facing outward.



When the ammo can is lifted, the elbows must lock out before returning to the starting position for the repetition to be counted. The can does not have to be lifted directly overhead.

EVENT III

MANEUVER UNDER FIRE

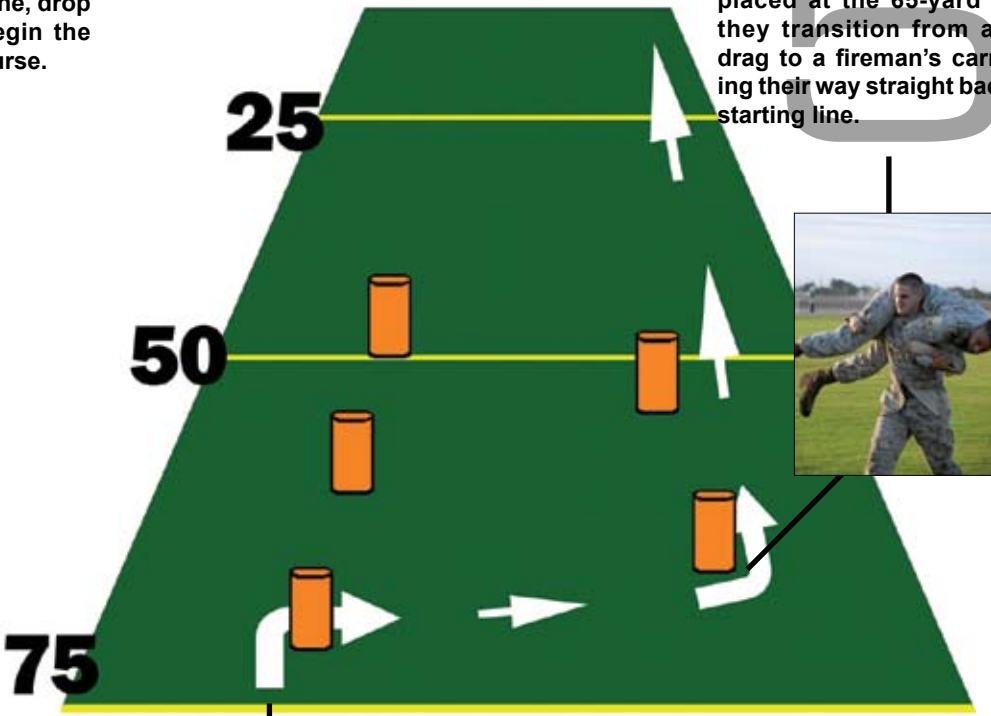
The final event of the combat fitness test is a 300-yard shuttle run. The event is timed and includes a variety of combat-related tasks, including crawls, an ammunition resupply, a grenade throw, agility running and buddy drags and carries. Marines paired up during the ammo lift will continue to work together in the final event. See below for a detailed breakdown of the event.

After the initial sprint, Marines will continue through the event in a high crawl for 10 yards, switching to a modified high crawl for 15 more yards until reaching the 50 yard marker.

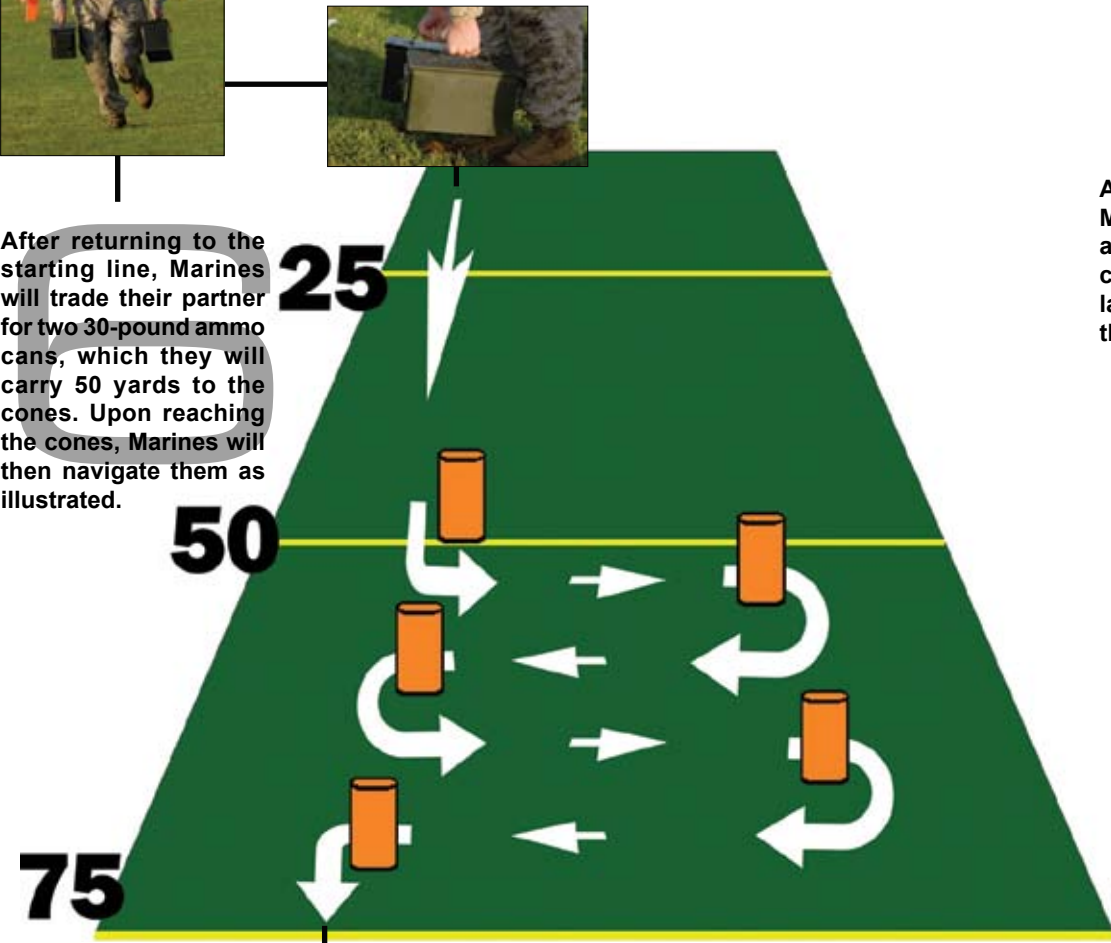


To begin the event, Marines sprint 25 yards to a cone, drop to the ground and begin the next portion of the course.

When Marines reach the cone placed at the 65-yard marker, they transition from a buddy drag to a fireman's carry, making their way straight back to the starting line.

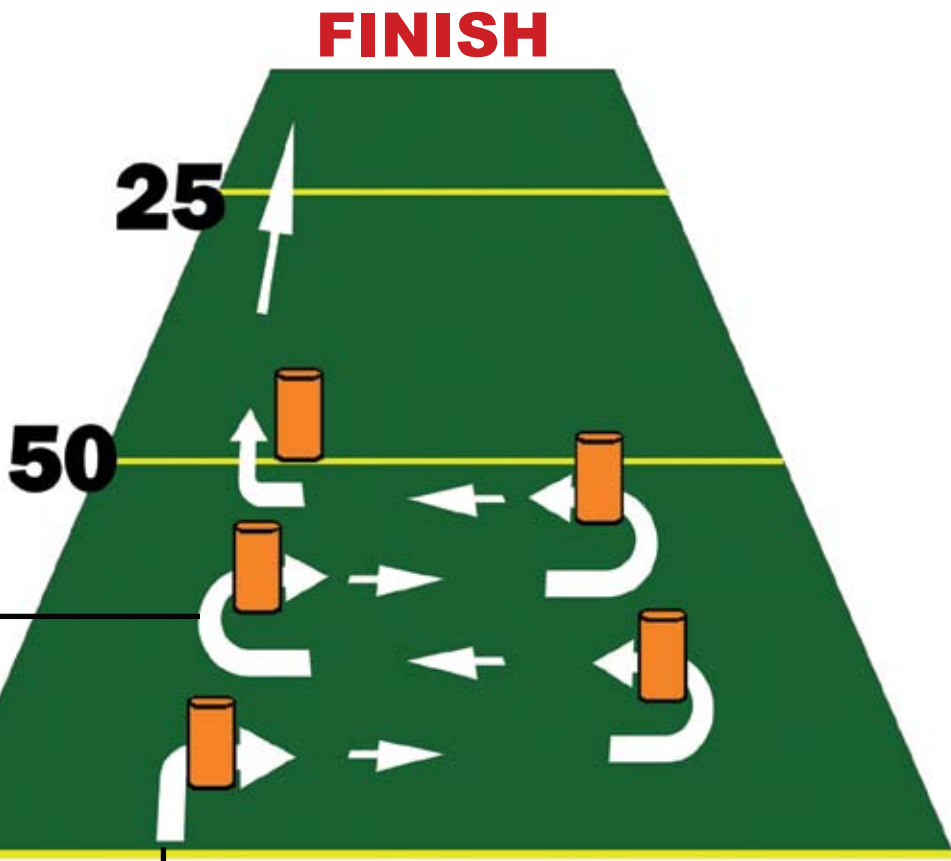


After returning to the starting line, Marines will trade their partner for two 30-pound ammo cans, which they will carry 50 yards to the cones. Upon reaching the cones, Marines will then navigate them as illustrated.



At the 50-yard mark, Marines rise from the high crawl and sprint the remaining 25 yards, negotiating five cones, each spaced five yards apart.

After completing the push-ups, Marines will then retrieve the ammo cans and navigate the cones once more, running the last 50 yards straight back to the finish.



Upon reaching the 75-yard line, Marines will find their partner sitting, arms crossed in front of them. Marines will reach under their partner's arms, grasp their forearms and drag them straight back five yards to a cone, continuing approximately seven yards diagonally to the next cone.

After navigating the cones, Marines will then throw a dummy grenade from the 75-yard line into a five yard by five yard target 20 yards away. Five seconds are added or subtracted to the Marine's overall course time depending on the success of the throw. If the grenade hits inside the target, but rolls out, the throw is good. If the throw hits outside the target and rolls in, or falls short completely, it doesn't count.



Immediately after the grenade throw, Marines must drop to the ground and perform three push-ups before picking their ammo cans back up.

CFT... from page 1

with the combat-related names “movement to contact,” “ammunition lift” and “maneuver under fire.”

The first event requires a Marine to run 880 yards while wearing boots and camouflage utilities in a limited amount of time based on their age. For example, male Marines aged 17-26 have 3 minutes, 48 seconds, to complete the run, while females in the same age group have 4 minutes, 34 seconds.

For the second event, a Marine repeatedly lifts a 30-pound ammunition can from below his chin to above his head as many times as possible in 2 minutes. To pass, male Marines aged 17-26 need to complete 45 reps. Females in the same age group need 20 reps.

The final event combines a complicated series of tasks across a 300-yard course that a Marine must finish in a limited amount of time.

First, Marines dash for 25 yards. Then, they drop to the ground and high crawl for 10 yards with their elbows, knees and torso touching the ground. For another 15 yards, Marines modify the crawl, keeping their hands, knees and feet in contact with the ground.

For the next 25 yards, Marines run, zig-zagging through markers, such as cones or pylons, every five yards to complete the first of four legs of the event.

For the second leg, a Marine begins by dragging a simulated casualty for 10 yards, then picks him up and carries the casualty across the Marine’s shoulders in a “fireman’s carry,” hauling him 65 yards back to the starting line.

After dropping off the casualty, the Marine picks up two 30-pound ammunition cans to begin the third leg of the event. For the first 50 yards, the Marine runs with the cans in a straight line, but for the last 25 yards, the Marine zig-zags through the markers. Then, a Marine sets down the cans, picks up an inert practice grenade and lobs it toward a 5-by-5 yard target area 20 yards away. Immediately after tossing the grenade, the Marine drops to the ground and performs three pushups, completing the third leg.

The final leg nearly mirrors the third, with the Marine carrying the ammunition cans through the markers for 25 yards and straight across the final 50 yards to complete the test.

Male Marines aged 17-26 have 3 minutes, 29 seconds, to complete the course; females in the same age group have 4 minutes, 57 seconds. As a reward for accuracy, 5 seconds will be deducted from the time if the Marine hits the target area with the grenade. However, failing to hit the target area means adding 5 seconds to the Marine’s time.

For the first year, no score is tabulated; a Marine either finishes all three events with the minimum standards to pass, or they don’t and fail.

As of Oct. 1, 2009, however, the test is scheduled to convert to a 300-point scoring system, similar to the existing physical fitness test. A Marine could earn up to 100 points in each event.

Additionally, the score would be incorporated into fitness reports and cutting scores making performance on the test a weighty part of a Marines’ promotion potential.

An instructional video on the combat fitness test, layout diagrams and the new order on the physical fitness program can be found at <https://www.tecom.usmc.mil>.

In November 2007, Conway issued a letter advising commanders that fitness and appearance standards would get tougher.

In addition to a combat fitness test, the body composition program and a new military appearance program would define or clarify the way a Marine must look.

“Our ability to fulfill the commitment and accomplish the mission is dependent, in part, upon the fitness of our Marines,” said Conway.

CARDS... from page 1

fees to a flat rate of 2 percent.

Any remaining balance on the Bank of America card will not transfer to the Citibank account. Therefore, Marines will continue to receive statements from Bank of America until all balances are paid, said David Fuqua, a card program manager at HQMC.

All Citibank cards sent to Arizona and California addresses should be received no later than Sept. 9, according to Marine Administrative Message 417/08.

If you do not receive your new card before Oct. 31, contact your unit’s agency program coordinator.

The new Citibank contract will run through 2018.

For more information on the travel charge card transition, visit www.defensetravel.dod.mil.

Lance Cpl. Bryan Carfrey, HQMC Public Affairs, contributed to this report.

BOATSPACE... from page 1

The Quality Re-enlistment Program allows for additional boatspaces to be opened for exceptional Marines.

“The Marine Corps realizes that sometimes good Marines, for whatever reason, don’t get a space, and that’s where the QRP comes into play,” said Staff Sgt. Chris Gielarowski, Marine Aircraft Group 13 career retention specialist.

The program applies only to corporals and sergeants who have been recommended by their commanding officer. Selection criteria includes: proficiency and conduct marks averaging at least 4.5/4.5 in service; a first-class score on the physical fitness test; no history of assignment to a weight control or body composition program; a clean criminal record; and no convictions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

For Marines who don’t qualify for the QRP, hope still remains to stay in the Corps.

“If a first-term Marine has run out of options, it is possible for that Marine to make a (lateral) move into another MOS and potentially still receive the bonus money for that new MOS,” explained Lopez-Gonzalez.

If a Marine doesn’t want to make a lateral move, then the only option left is to get out of the Marine Corps when his current contract expires.

“At the end of the day Marines need to make the decision that is best for them,” said Lopez-Gonzalez.

For more information about boatspace caps and re-enlistment, contact your unit’s career retention specialist.

BONUS... from page 1

In contrast, a lance corporal rifleman would receive \$36,000 if he re-enlisted before Sept. 30, but if he waited until after Oct. 1, he would only rate \$29,000.

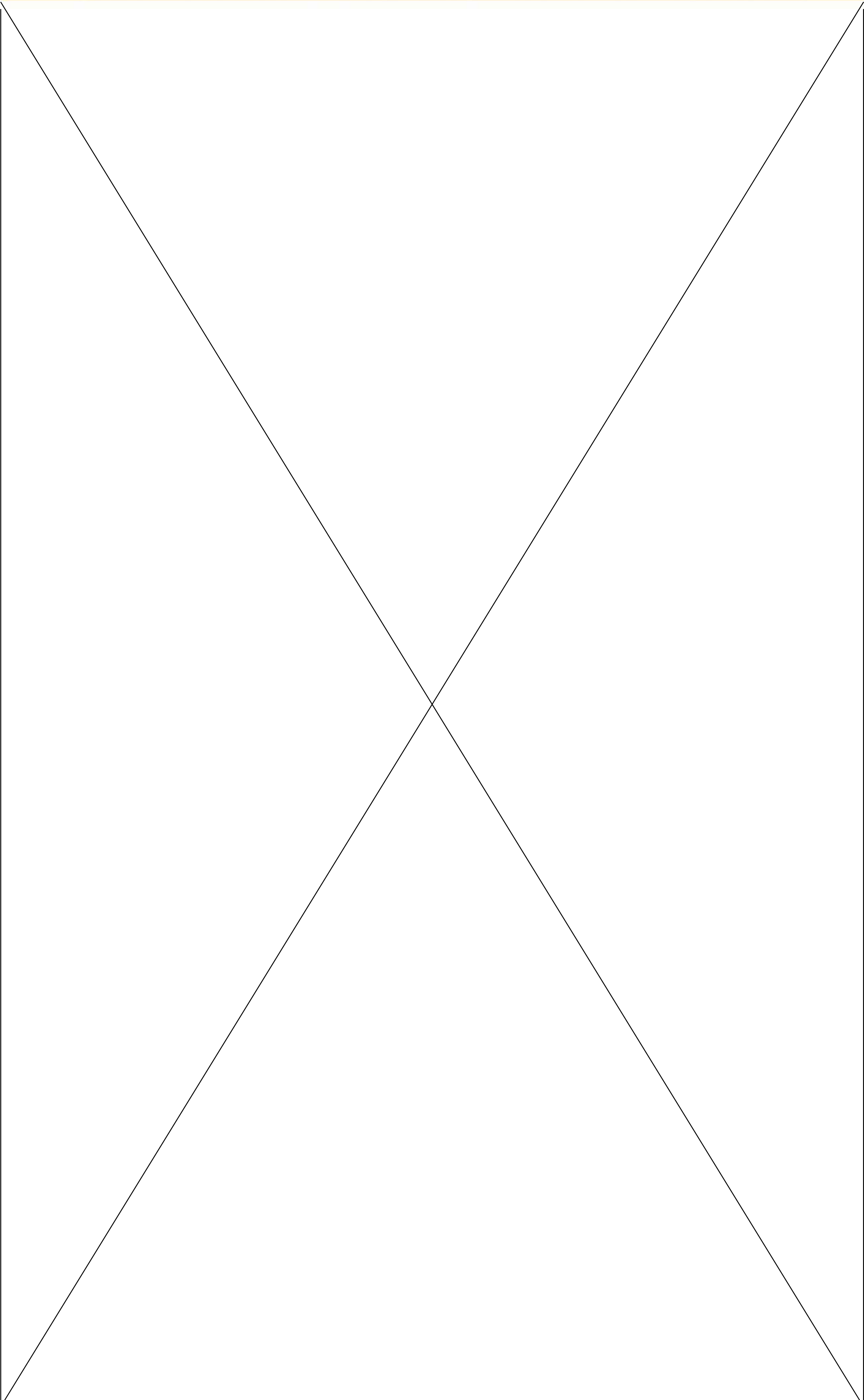
Career Marines—those not on their first contract—who are eligible for re-enlistment in fiscal year 2009 can also receive the bonus from fiscal year 2008, but they must submit their request package before Sept. 15. If submitted after, the Marine will receive the bonus for fiscal year 2009.

Additionally, with the return of boatspace caps, if a Marine waits longer to submit a re-enlistment package the more likely their MOS will close or bonuses will no longer be given. This may force a Marine to lateral move into a new military occupational specialty in to stay in the Corps.

Marines who wait to submit a package risk the chance of missing out on duty station preference or other special incentives.

For a complete list of re-enlistment bonuses, refer to Marine Administrative Message 370/08, which can be found on Marines.mil, or contact your unit career retention specialist.





AT EASE

News to Use

Naval aviators sought for F-35B consultant positions

The U.S. Navy Test Pilot School selection board is accepting applications for USNTPS class 136, scheduled to begin in January.

After graduation from the class, pilots can expect to attend F-35B transition training and will continue on to a position as an operational test liaison within the F-35B developmental test program.

Applicants are required to be either a captain or a major, and a designated naval aviator or naval flight officer.

A bachelor's degree in the engineering, physical science, computer science or mathematics fields is highly desirable. At the very least, applicants should have successfully completed college-level physics or mechanics along with college-level mathematics through algebra, differential equations and integral calculus.

Applicants must have a total of 1,500 flight hours, although 1,000 operational flight hours on a variety of aircraft may be considered.

Applications should be passed through an applicant's current endorsing chain. If an applicant is transferred after submission, endorsement from the applicant's new command should also be submitted.

The application deadline for class 136 is Aug. 21.

For more information, contact Gunnery Sgt. Eliseo Gonzalez at 703-784-9284 or consult MarAdmin 416/08.

New Marine Corps publications now available

On Aug. 3, the Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration approved six new doctrinal publications.

The new publications include: Tactical Boat Operations, Multi-Service TTP for Chemical, Biological, Radioactive and Nuclear, Seabee Operations in the MAGTF, Change 1, Combined Arms IED Defeat Operations, Engineer Reconnaissance, and the Marine Tactical Air Command Center Handbook, which gives aviation commanders the means to command aviation assets necessary to support Marine Air-Ground Task Force operations.

Designated units will receive printed copies of the publications from the Marine Corps Publication Distribution Center.

Units who do not receive the publications, but would like a copy must contact their administration sections for assistance.

Refer to Marine Administrative Message 422/08, which can be found on marines.mil, for more information.

Tailspotter



Photo courtesy of Humane Society of Yuma

This is George, a three-month-old male German Shepherd and Corgi mix. He has two brothers and two sisters who also need a good home.

All pets found on station are turned in to the Humane Society of Yuma. The Society has dozens of dogs and cats in need of good homes. Cost of adoptions include immunizations, spaying or neutering the animal, a free veterinary checkup, a microchip and 30 days of pet insurance. For more information, call 928-782-1621.

In Theaters

Thursday

Get Smart (PG-13)
7 p.m.

Friday

Meet Dave (PG)
6 p.m.

The Love Guru (PG-13)
9 p.m.

Saturday

Kit Kittredge: An American Girl (G)
4 p.m.

Hancock (PG-13)
7 p.m.

Sunday

Hancock (PG-13)
5 p.m.

Monday

Wanted (R)
7 p.m.

Tuesday

Get Smart (PG-13)
7 p.m.

Wednesday

Free admission
The Love Guru (PG-13)
7 p.m.

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
Call 928-269-2358 or visit
<http://www.yuma.usmc-mccs.org/theater.htm>

Re-enlistment bonus points available

Marine Administrative Message 425/08, signed Aug. 4, released terms for the 60 bonus points re-enlistment incentive.

Active duty first term Marines that re-enlist for 48 months are still eligible to receive 60 re-enlistment bonus points for their composite score. The bonus points are available to all fiscal year 2008 Marines and subsequent first term Marines.


Missed an issue of the Desert Warrior?

Catch up at

yuma.usmc.mil

Previous Issues

2008	▼	Select month	▼
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		January	
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		March	
		April	
		May	
		June	
		July	



MESS HALL MENU

Monday-Friday
Breakfast—5:30-7:30 a.m.
Lunch—11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner—4-6 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday
Breakfast/Brunch—9 a.m. to noon
Dinner—3-5 p.m.

Midrats
Sunday-Thursday
11 p.m. to 12:45 a.m.

Prices
For military without meal cards
Breakfast—\$2.10
Lunch and dinner—\$3.85

HOURS OF OPERATION

THURSDAY	LUNCH: Chicken Noodle Soup Roast Beef Turkey w/ Vegetables Mashed Potatoes Lyonnise Carrots Succotash	DINNER: BBQ Spareribs Beef Stew Buttered Egg Noodles Confetti Rice Southern-style Greens Corn Bread
FRIDAY	LUNCH: Clam Chowder Beef Yakisoba Southern-fried Catfish Baked Macaroni & Cheese Simmered Corn Brussels Sprouts	DINNER: Deli Bar Assorted sandwiches & salads Pastries
SATURDAY	BRUNCH: Navy Bean Soup Eggs to order Cold Cereals Sausage Patties Oven-fried Bacon ... and more	DINNER: Swiss Steak Mexican Turkey Pasta Roasted Pepper Potatoes French-fried Cauliflower Green Beans Cheese Drop Biscuits
SUNDAY	BRUNCH: Eggs to order Grilled Ham Slices Oven-fried Bacon Pancakes / Waffles Chicken Sandwich ... and more	DINNER: Roast Beef Baked Salmon Filet Mashed Potatoes Cilantro Rice Simmered Carrots Dinner Rolls
MONDAY	LUNCH: Chicken w/ Rice Soup Salisbury Steak Chicken & Vegetable Pasta Mashed Potatoes Herbed Green Beans Summer Squash	DINNER: Turkey Pot Pie Dijon Pork Chop Roast Potato Wedges Steamed Rice Club Spinach Mixed Vegetables
TUESDAY	LUNCH: Tomato Soup Roast Beef Shrimp Sausage & Penne Garlic Cheese Potatoes Broccoli Succotash	DINNER: Chili Macaroni Savory Baked Chicken Grilled Cheese Sandwich Lyonnise Potatoes Simmered Peas Jalapeno Corn Bread
WEDNESDAY	LUNCH: Corn Chowder Santa Fe Glazed Chicken BBQ Spare Ribs Long Grain & Wild Rice Candied Sweet Potatoes Corn O'Brien	DINNER: Pepper Steak Cheese Tortellini w/ Marinara Steamed Rice Italian Vegetable Blend Calico Cabbage Cheese Drop Biscuits



Events

www.mccsyuma.org

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AND **DI FRESH 1**



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\$5 COVER
18YRS TO GET IN 21YRS TO DRINK

MUST HAVE VALID D.L. AND VEHICLE REGISTRATION TO DRIVE ON BASE

WWW.MYSPACE.COM/VENUEYUMA

ADS

SPORTS

I&L, MALS-13, teams to beat in '08 flag football

Lance Cpl. Gregory Aalto
Desert Warrior Staff

The intramural flag football preseason tournament kicked off Monday with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13 Blue Falcons and Marine Air Control Squadron 1 Tactical Air Operations Center winning their opening matches.

The Blue Falcons beat Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron Meteorological and Oceanographic 13-12 and TAOC beat Marine Wing Support Squadron 371 Motor Transportation, 13-12.

The Blue Falcons and METOC went to overtime with both teams scoreless after 40 minutes of regulation play.

In overtime, the Blue Falcons immediately

scored a touchdown but could not convert the extra point. METOC responded with the same result, leaving the first overtime deadlocked at 6-6.

In the second overtime, METOC began with another touchdown, but again could not convert on the extra point. The Blue Falcons took full advantage and scored a touchdown before converting the game's first extra point.

TAOC's victory over Motor T mirrored the last game's score, however, they were able to complete the task in regulation.

After the league's preseason tournament, teams will compete through the first week of November.

Fourteen teams are competing this year, compared to eight last year.

Five H&HS teams, three MALS-13 teams, two MWSS-371 and MACS-1 teams, Marine Attack

Training Squadron 401 and Marine Aircraft Group 13 round out the season's participants.

A source of heated contention and frustration was the flags last year's champions used.

Teams complained of Installation & Logistics having an unfair advantage due to their flags being Velcro, while the rest of the league wore the clip-style flags last year.

"I don't know if it really gave them an advantage, but everybody should play with the same flags," said Michael Lopez, Installation Personnel Administration Center quarterback.

"It's Velcro. It was evenly matched. You have to grab it and rip it off just like everybody else's," said George Cooper, I&L receiver.

Regardless, the flag issue will not be brought up this year.

This year teams will receive identical flags from

officials pregame and return the flags postgame, said Walter Sosinski, station athletic director.

Sosinski's preseason predictions almost mirror last year's final standings.

Last year ended with I&L in first, MALS-13 in second and Yuma Proving Ground in third.

Sosinki predicted this year's top three will be H&HS I&L, MALS-13 and MAG-13.

Due to time constraints, not all teams will play each other in the regular season.

"I want to ensure the football season is over before the (Marine Corps Ball) season begins," said Sosinski.

A lottery selection will give the teams their 10 regular-season opponents.

Games are played in the evenings Monday through Thursday on Field 425 west of the station gym.



Photos by Lance Cpl. T.M. Stewman

Above, Bryan Weingart, Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron Meteorological and Oceanographic receiver, evades opponents Monday during the preseason intramural flag football tournament at Field 425 here. Left, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13 Blue Falcons quarterback drops back in the pocket, under METOC pursuit during the tournament. The Blue Falcons defeated METOC 13-12 in double overtime after staunch defensive performances left the game scoreless at the end of regulation.